GOVERNMENTOF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Agriculture & Cooperation Department - Allegation of corruption against Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, worked as Agriculture officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district - Trapped on 26-04-2019 - Sanction of prosecution - Orders - Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.58 **Dated: 22/10/2022**

ORDER:

Whereas, Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari W/o R. Venkateswara Rao, worked as Agriculture Officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district from 02-03-2019 to 26-04-2019 and by virtue of the post held by her, she falls under the category of public servant as defined under section 2 (c) of Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 (As amended by Act 16 of 2018).

2. And whereas, on 24.04.2019 at 10.30 A.M., Sri. Pasumarthi Santosh Ramu @ Santosh, S/o Late Adinarayana came to the Office of DSP, ACB, Visakhapatnam Range and lodged a written report against Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, W/o Sri R. Venkateswara Rao, 50 yrs, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam District alleging that he is working as sales executive and person responsible of M/s Pasumarthy Adinarayana & Sons and M/s Sitarama traders, Chodavaram, Visakhapatnam district which are wholesale and retail shops of pesticides and Fertilizers. The owners of the shops Sri Pasumarthy Kama Raju and Sri Pasumarthy Jagadeesh, applied for permanent license for pesticides on 26-02-2019 which were approved on 11-03-2019 and handed over to the complainant and also applied for the Renewal of fertilizer license of M/s Pasumarthy Adinarayana & Sons, Chodavaram on 22-03-2019 through online. Later, the complainant approached the Agricultural officer, Chodavaram mandal, Visakhapatnam district in the first week of April - 2019 with a request to forward the renewal application of Fertilizer license of M/s. Pasumarthy Adinarayana & Sons. Then, Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer demanded him a bribe of Rs.20,000/- for forwarding the renewal application of fertilizer license to the A.D, Agriculture and as a reward for the already given permanent pesticides licenses. As her demand was not met by the complainant, Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer, rejected the Application for renewal of fertilizer license without showing any genuine reason and he received SMS on 17-04-2019 as such. Then, the complainant again approached Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer on 23 04-2019 and requested to reduce the bribe amount, on which, she asked to give her Rs.19,000/- as bribe stating that Rs.8000/- for each shop for the already issued pesticide permanent license and Rs.3000/- for the renewal of the fertilizer license of M/s Pasumarthy Adinarayana & Sons and Smt.Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer asked the complainant to meet her on 26.04.2019 at her office and pay the total bribe amount of Rs.19,000/- to her. When the complainant informed the demand of Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer to the owners of the shops, they instructed him to present a written report to the DSP, ACB, Visakhapatnam against Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer, since they were reluctant to give bribe to Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer.

3. And whereas, Sri Pasumarthi Santosh Ramu @ Santosh was not interested to pay the bribe amount to Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agriculture Officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam District after taking consent from the owners of the shops, he submitted a written report to Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti Corruption Bureau, Visakhapatnam on 24.04.2019 to take necessary action against Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari W/o R. Venkateswara Rao, 50 Yrs, Agriculture Officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam District. After following due procedure, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti Corruption Bureau, Visakhapatnam registered the said report as a case in Cr.No.06/RCT-VSP/2019 U/s 7(a) of P.C. (Amendment) Act, 2018 of A.C.B., Visakhapatnam Range, Visakhapatnam on 26.04.2019 at 07.30 hrs and organized for lying trap.

(P.T.O)

4. And whereas, on 26.04.2019 at about 13.15 hours, Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Mandal Agricultural officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district further demanded and accepted the bribe amount of Rs.19,000/- from Sri Pasumarthy Santhosh through Sri Baggu Jagannadha Rao, Agricultural Extension officer, Chodavaram, Visakhapatnam District. Sri Baggu Jagannadha Rao, AEO received the bribe amount from Sri Pasumarthy Santhosh on the directions of Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Mandal Agricultural Officer, Chodavaram and counted the bribe amount with his both hands and immediately handed over the tainted bribe amount to Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Mandal Agricultural Officer, Chodavaram who secreted the bribe amount in her office agriculture Diary which was found on her office table in front of her. The DSP, ACB, Visakhapatnam recovered the tainted currency of Rs.19,000/- from the Diary at the instance of Smt.Karri Uma Maheswari, Mandal Agricultural Officer, Chodavaram in the presence of mediators. The serial numbers of tainted amounts i.e.Rs.19,000/- were compared with those of the serial numbers of the currency notes mentioned in pre - trap proceedings and they were found tallied. Right Hand fingers of Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, Agricultural officer, both hand fingers of Sri B. Jagannadha Rao, AEO and the 1st page of the Diary, when subjected to chemical test, yielded positive results. The bribe amount i.e. Rs. 19,000/-, connected records and material objects pertaining to this case were seized by the DSP, ACB, Visakhapatnam in the presence of Mediators under cover Mediators Report – II and prepared rough sketch of scene of offence.

5. And whereas, the aforesaid acts of Smt.Karri Uma Maheswari, Mandal Agricultural officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district constitute offence under section 7 (a) and (b) of Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018.

6. And whereas, the Government of Andhra Pradesh being the competent authority to remove Smt.Karri Uma Maheswari, formerly worked as Agriculture officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district from her service after fully and carefully examining the material viz., copy of FIR, Pre & Post Trap proceedings, relevant records, statements of witnesses and final report of Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau etc., placed before Government of Andhra Pradesh in respect of the said allegations with regard to the facts and circumstances of the case consider that Smt. Karri Uma Maheswari, formerly worked as Agriculture officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district should be prosecuted in a court of law for the aforesaid offences.

7. Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of the Sub Section (1) of Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 (As amended by Act 16 of 2018), Govt. of A.P. hereby accord sanction to prosecute Smt.Karri Uma Maheswari, formerly worked as Agriculture officer, Chodavaram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district for the above said offences punishable under sections 7 (a) and (b) of the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 (As amended by Act 16 of 2018) and for any other cognizable offences punishable under any other provisions of law for the time being in force in respect of the aforesaid act and for taking cognizance of the said offences by the court of competent jurisdiction.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

(POONAM MALAKONDAIAH)
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:

The Director General, ACB, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, NTR Administrative Block, 2nd Floor, Vijayawada A.P.